

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/JP03/11914

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B82B3/00, H01L21/285

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
Int.Cl<sup>7</sup> B82B1/00, 3/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004  
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2004 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
Web of Science: ((STM OR scanning tunneling microscopy) AND (Ag SAME probe\*) OR (silver SAME probe\*) OR (Ag SAME tip\*) OR (silver SAME tip\*))

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 07-065705 A (Canon Inc.), 10 March, 1995 (10.03.95), Par. Nos. [0011], [0012], [0044] to [0050], [0059] (Family: none)	1,2
X	WO 00/70325 A1 (Japan Science and Technology Corp.), 23 November, 2000 (23.11.00), Full text (particularly, page 4, line 25 to page 5, line 11; page 9, lines 12 to 22) & US 6608306 B1	1,2

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 14 January, 2004 (14.01.04)	Date of mailing of the international search report 27 January, 2004 (27.01.04)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Physical Review Letters, Vol.72, No.4, pages 574 to 577, C.S. Chang et al., "Field Evaporation between a Gold Tip and a Gold Surface in the Scanning Tunneling Microscope Configuration", 24 January, 1994 (24.01.94), the whole document	1,2
A	Solid State Ionics, Vol.131, pages 69 to 78, D.M. Kolb, "Nanoscale decoration of electrode surface with an STM", 01 June, 2000 (01.06.00), the whole document (especially, page 74, "3.3. Ag clusters on Au(111)")	1,2
P,X	Applied Physics Letters, Vol.82, No.14, pages 2329 to 2331, D.Fujita and T. Kumakura, "Reproducible fabrication of metallic silver nanostructures on a Si(111)-(7x7) surface by tip-material transfer of a scanning tunneling microscope", 07 April, 2003 (07.04.03), the whole document	1,2